

QA-570

Winchester Creek

Grasonville, Queen Anne's County

Constructed late-19<sup>th</sup> century through early-20<sup>th</sup> century

Privately owned

### ***SUMMARY DESCRIPTION***

Winchester Creek is a late-19<sup>th</sup> to early-20<sup>th</sup> century water-oriented settlement located on the north side of U.S. 50 in Grasonville, Queen Anne's County. The settlement wraps the west bank of Winchester Creek between its west and south branches. There are eight properties constructed before 1960 and twelve constructed after 1960. The properties are oriented toward the water and approached from the rear via narrow gravel lanes. A typical property in Winchester Creek consists of a modest wood-frame house and outbuildings including a workshop and boat garage.

### ***SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE***

Winchester Creek, a late-19<sup>th</sup> to early-20<sup>th</sup> century settlement, is significant as an example of the water-oriented settlement pattern found in Queen Anne's County. These water oriented settlements are characterized by modest, rambling houses that have front elevations and groomed lawns facing the water and outbuildings and work yards facing the lanes that approach them from the rear. This vernacular landscape evolved independent of planned waterfront subdivisions and reflects the modest professions of the people who constructed it.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-570

### 1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic N/A

other Winchester Creek

### 2. Location

street and number VFW Avenue, Radcliffe Road, Clevenger Lane, Mousley Road not for publication

city, town Grasonville vicinity

county Queen Anne's

### 3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Multiple

street and number N/A

telephone N/A

city, town N/A

state N/A

zip code N/A

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Queen Anne's County Circuit Court liber Multiple folio Multiple

city, town Centreville tax map 58A tax parcel 8, 437, 440, 441, 445, 450, 451, 605 tax ID number Multiple

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other:

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	8
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	12
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	0
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	8
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	12
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	0
			Total
			0

Number of Contributing Resources  
previously listed in the Inventory

0

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. QA-570

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### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### *SUMMARY DESCRIPTION*

Winchester Creek is a late-19<sup>th</sup> to early-20<sup>th</sup> century water-oriented settlement located on the north side of U.S. 50 in Grasonville, Queen Anne's County. The settlement wraps the west bank of Winchester Creek between its west and south branches. There are eight properties constructed before 1960 and twelve constructed after 1960. The properties are oriented toward the water and approached from the rear via narrow gravel lanes. A typical property in Winchester Creek consists of a modest wood-frame house and outbuildings including a workshop and boat garage.

### *ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION*

Winchester Creek is a late-19<sup>th</sup> to early-20<sup>th</sup> century water-oriented settlement that is located on the north side of U.S. 50 in Grasonville, Queen Anne's County. The settlement wraps the west bank of Winchester Creek between its west and south branches. The land is low, flat, and wooded except where cleared for lawns. The properties on Winchester Creek are accessed via narrow gravel lanes that lead east off of VFW Avenue. The properties are oriented toward the water so that the driveways approach the rear entrances of the houses. Groomed lawns are reserved for waterfronts; the rears of lots along the lanes are used as work yards. A typical property along Winchester Creek consists of a modest, wood-frame house with rambling additions and an array of small outbuildings including a workshop and a garage that can accommodate a boat.

Winchester Creek currently includes eight properties that pre-date 1960 and twelve that post-date 1960. The properties constructed before 1960 are as follows:

- 301 VFW Avenue: A 1 ½-story, 3-bay, wood-frame Cape Cod constructed in 1944. Includes a screened-in pavilion and a boat garage.
- 305 VFW Avenue: A 1 ½-story, 3-bay, wood-frame Cape Cod constructed in 1943.
- NW side Radcliffe Road: A ca. 1910, 2-story, 3-bay, wood-frame I-house.
- 113 Radcliffe Road: A ca. 1935, 1 ½-story, wood-frame front-gable house with an enclosed porch. Includes a large boat garage and a workshop.
- 130 Radcliffe Road: A ca. 1913, 2-story, 4-bay, heavily altered wood-frame I-house.
- 404 Clevenger Lane: A ca. 1915, 2-story, 2-bay, wood-frame front-gable house with multiple additions. Includes a small, wood-frame bungalow, a freestanding boat garage, and a workshop.
- 210 Mousley Road: A 1-story brick Rambler constructed in 1952
- 206 Mousley Road: A ca. 1890, 2-story, 2-bay, wood-frame front-gable house with multiple additions. Includes a freestanding garage with a workshop.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. QA-570

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

**Specific dates** see Construction dates **Architect/Builder** unknown

**Construction dates** ca. 1890, ca. 1910, ca. 1913, ca. 1915, ca. 1935, 1943, 1944, 1952

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### ***SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE***

Winchester Creek, a late-19<sup>th</sup> to early-20<sup>th</sup> century settlement, is significant as an example of the water-oriented settlement pattern found in Queen Anne's County. These water oriented settlements are characterized by modest, rambling houses that have front elevations and groomed lawns facing the water and outbuildings and work yards facing the lanes that approach them from the rear. This vernacular landscape evolved independent of planned waterfront subdivisions and reflects the modest professions of the people who constructed it.

### ***RESOURCE HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE***

The Winchester Creek settlement is significant as an example of the water-oriented settlement pattern found in Queen Anne's County. These water-oriented settlements are characterized by straight, narrow lanes leading from main roads, narrow deep lots leading from the lanes to the waterfront, modest houses with rambling additions, and an array of small outbuildings. The houses are oriented toward the water, and the lanes approach their rear elevations. Groomed lawns lie between the houses and the water, while work yards filled with outbuildings, boats, and cars lie between the houses and the lanes. This vernacular landscape generally pre-dates planned waterfront subdivisions. Although it appears informal and organic, it is in fact highly ordered.

Historic maps indicate that the Winchester Creek settlement was farmland through the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The settlement appears to have developed after the Queen Anne's Railroad was constructed in 1902, bisecting the farmland between Grasonville to the south and the Chester River to the north. The pattern of long, deep lots along the creek appears on United States Coast and Geodetic Survey maps of 1905 and 1907. United States Geological Survey maps from 1935, 1950, and 1961 show clusters of houses developing around the edges of the creek and the roads leading to it. Census data from 1900 to 1930 reveals that the property owners' professions included carpenter, truck farmer, oyster tonger, oyster packer, and captain of a merchant vessel. Several properties were owned by Baltimoreans with professions such as insurance agent, shipyard carpenter, and clerk at the Harbor. Construction of new houses in Winchester Creek continues to the present. In addition, a trend toward tearing down older houses and constructing larger new houses has emerged. In at least one case (138 Radcliffe Road), this was due to extensive flood damage caused by Hurricane Isabel in 2003.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Conversation between Julie Darsie and Anthony Moen, owner of 138 Radcliffe Road, November 18, 2005.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. QA-570

See attached.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property approximately 9 acres  
Acreage of historical setting approximately 30 acres  
Quadrangle name Queenstown

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The contributing properties of the Winchester Creek settlement occupy Queen Anne's County Tax Map 58a, Parcels 8, 437, 440, 441, 445, 450, 451, and 605. These contributing parcels total approximately 9 acres. The entire area of the Winchester Creek settlement occupies 30 acres and is roughly bounded on the north and east by Winchester Creek, on the south by Winchester Creek Road, and on the west by VFW Avenue.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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name/title	Julie Darsie		
organization	Betty Bird & Associates	date	December 2005
street & number	2607 24 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 3	telephone	(202) 588-9033
city or town	Washington, District of Columbia	state	N/A

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-570

Winchester Creek  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 9 Page 1

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### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Conversation between Julie Darsie and Anthony Moen (owner of 138 Radcliffe Road), November 18, 2005.

Department of Assessment and Taxation. Real Property Database. [www.dat.state.md.us](http://www.dat.state.md.us).

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson. *An Illustrated Atlas of Kent and Queen Anne Counties, Maryland*. Philadelphia: Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson, 1877.

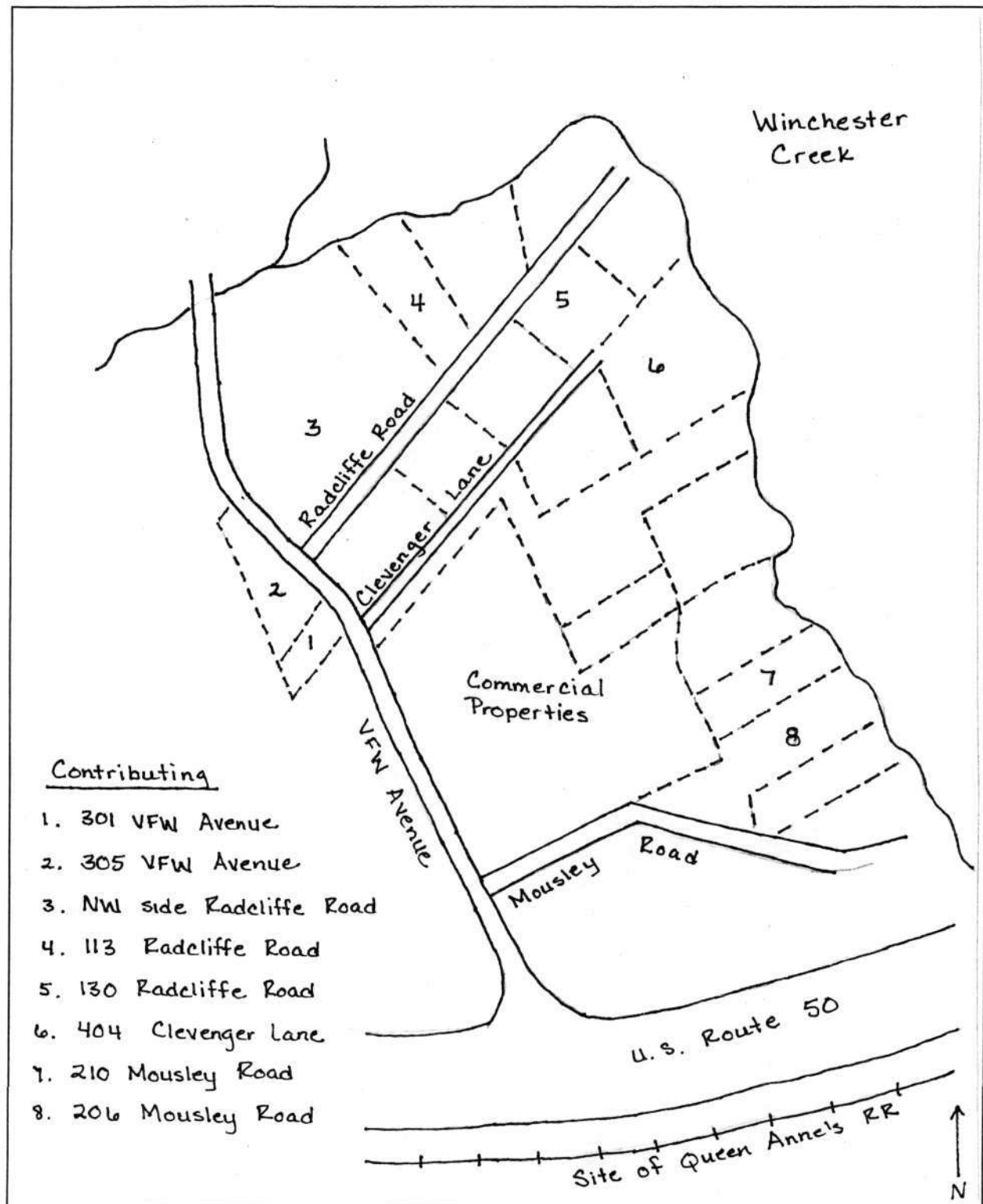
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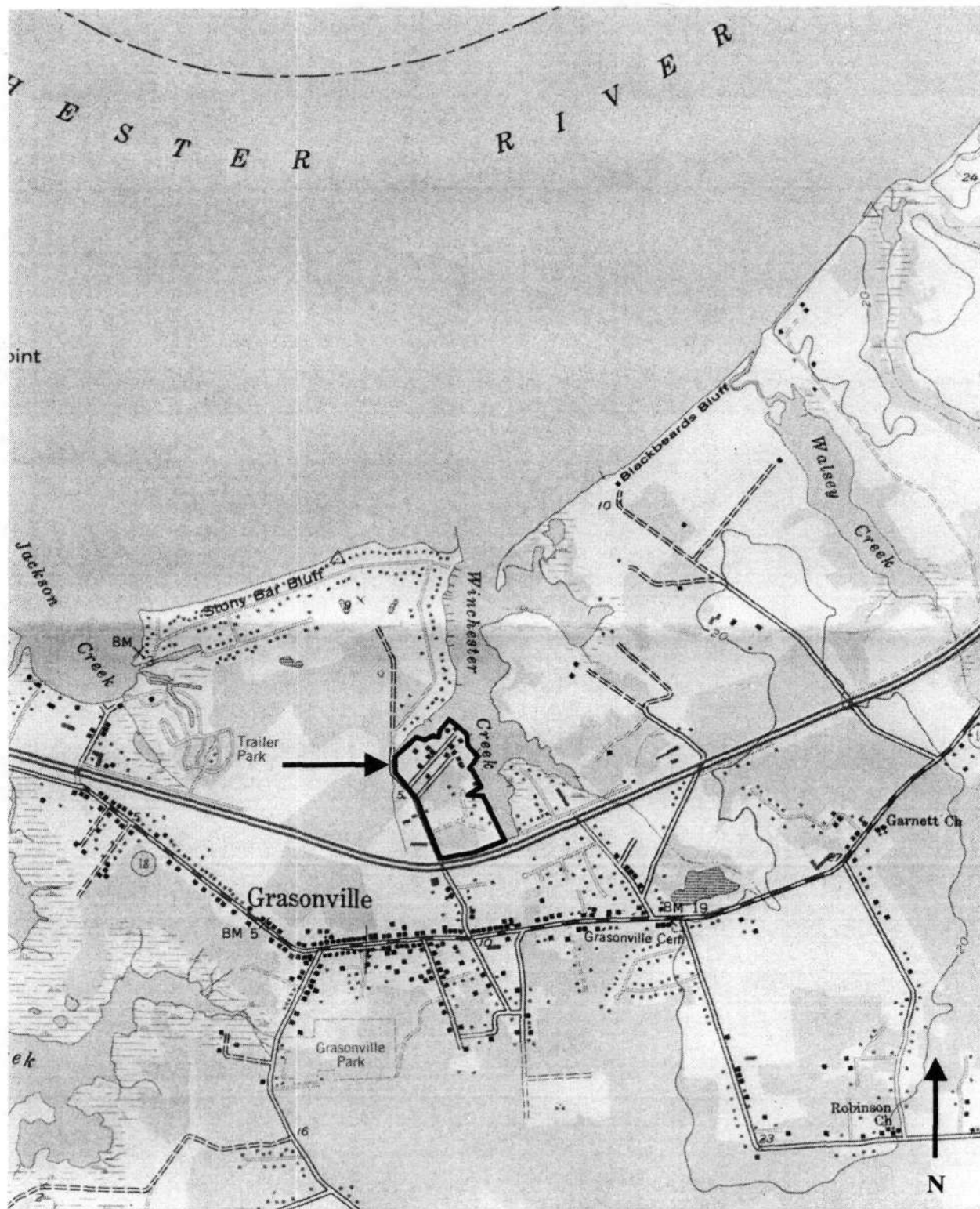
United States Federal Census Manuscripts for 1900 through 1930. [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. Chesapeake Bay from its Head to Potomac River. No. 135, from Magothy River to Choptank River (1905, 1907).



Site Plan  
QA-570  
Winchester Creek  
Grasonville, Queen Anne's County, Maryland





QA-570

**Winchester Creek**

Grasonville, Queen Anne's County, Maryland  
Queenstown, Maryland Quadrangle (1:24,000)





QA-570

Winchester Creek

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD SHPO

Houses at 301-305 VFW Avenue. Note boat garage  
and pavilion on left.

bettybi, bettybi\_bettybi-RI-E002\_004

1 of 8

02/21/06



GA-510

Winchester Creek

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD SHPO

Ca. 1910 house on Radcliffe Road. View to north.

2 of 8

2006-11-06 11:00:00



QA-570

Winchester Creek

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

John Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD 54PO

House at 113 Radcliffe Road with two garage and workshop in rear. Ca. 1935. View to north.

3 of 8

2007-11-11 11:11 AM





QA-570

Winchester Creek

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD SHPO

House at 130 Radcliffe Road. Ca. 1913. View to SE

4 of 8

2005-11-05 11:40 AM



QA-570

Winchester Creek

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

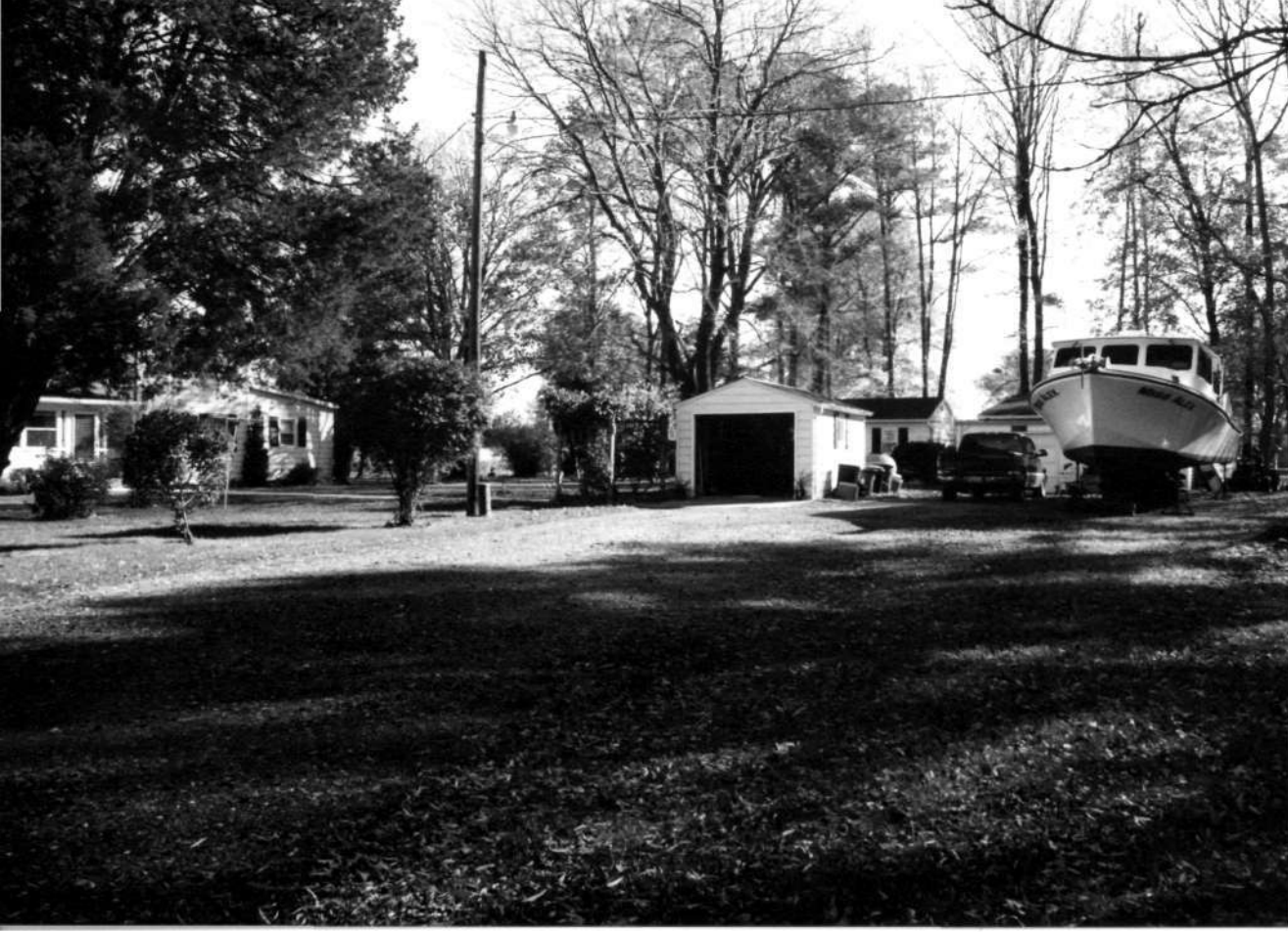
November 2005

MD SHPO

Complex at 404 Clevenger Lane, constructed beginning  
ca. 1915. View to southwest showing water-facing  
elevations.

5 of 8

2010 11 03 MONDAY — 2002



QA-570

Winchester Creek

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Jake Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD SHPO

Complex at 404 Clevenger Lane, constructed beginning ca. 1915. View to east showing work yard on land side of lot.

Lot 8

2007-11-05 MONDAY 11:21 AM





QA-510

Winchester Creek

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD SHPO

House at 206 Mousley Road. Ca. 1890. View to NW.  
Note garage and workshop on left.

7 of 8

2002 — MNNON 90+ 11 8206 >



QA-510

Winchester Creek

Queen Annel's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD SHPO.

View to West showing properties from across Winchester  
Creek

8 of 8

bettybi\_bettybi\_bettybi-R1-E001\_003

, 02/21/06